

COLUMBUS TRANSPORTATION AND PEDESTRIAN COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
109 NORTH FRONT STREET, GROUND FLOOR, ROOM 100
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2012
5:00 P.M

Present were:

Voting Members: Croasmun, Duguid, Simmons, Simonds, Wood

Advisory Member: Lt. Mull

Executive Secretary: Austin

Division of Mobility Options Staff: Bowman, Lewis, Popa

Division of Planning and Operations Staff: Bell

Guests: Tricia Kovacs

CALL TO ORDER: 5:05 p.m.

MINUTES

Steve Simmons asked for a motion for approval of the November 13, 2012 minutes:

Motion to approve – Croasmun

Second – Simonds

Motion carries

ACTION ITEMS

Update to T&PC Bylaws

Randy Bowman submitted updated Rules and Regulations (bylaws) of The Transportation and Pedestrian Commission following Columbus City Code. These were changes that were suggested by Commissioner Simmons and Commission Duguid as they pertain to the operations of subcommittees. The changes to the rules and regulations include term membership for subcommittee members. The new terms would be 3 years for subcommittee members, however, so years would be staggered and all terms would not end at the same time, beginning in 2013 the introduction of 3 year term for 3 members and 2 year term for 2 members.

Tricia Kovacs, member of the bicycle subcommittee spoke and asked that some of the bylaws be clarified. She indicated she did not see a term for the T&PC commissioners. It was determined it was 3 years under city codes. Ms. Kovacs questioned if subcommittees could take actions (vote) and were the Bicycle Subcommittee meetings open to the public. It was determined that a subcommittee is a recommending body to the T&PC; the T&PC is a recommending body to the Director. The subcommittee can indeed vote to take recommendations to the Commission. Subcommittee meetings are open to the public.

Steve Simmons asked for a Motion to adopt the proposed changes to the Transportation and Pedestrian Commission Rules and Regulations or Bylaws as presented.

Motion to Approve – Croasmun

Second – Woods

Motion Carries

Bicycle Subcommittee Membership

Due to the updated T&PC Rules and Regulations, the term of all members of the subcommittee as of December 31, 2012 will expire. Applications for subcommittee members have been advertised with a deadline of January 2, 2013. These applicants will be approved and voted on at the January 9th meeting. Lori DuGuid at the present time will be the only member of the biking subcommittee that would remain, as she is a member of the T&PC, her term would remain in effect.

Steve Simmonds asked for a motion to end the term of all biking subcommittee of T&PC as of December 31, 2012 as a deadline for letters of interest is January 2, 2013.

Motion to approve – Simonds

Second – Wood

Motion Carries

Near East and South Area Traffic Control Modification Updated

Patti Austin has brought before the commission the request for a vote on the removal of approximately 14 signals in the near east area primarily on Bryden Road. This issue has been updated before the commission on several occasions and now is up to a vote. The law has indicated that the signals are not warranted through recent studies. There will be a 6 month flash period with red flashing in the direction that stops signs will be placed and yellow flash in the other direction. If further study indicates after the 6 month flashing period there is no accident problem, etc. at that point signals will be removed and replaced with stop signs.

Steve Simmons asked for motion to move forward with the traffic control modifications.

Motion to approve – Croasmun

Second – Duguid

Motion Carries

Winchester Pike – Increase Speed Limit from 35 mph to 55 mph

Tim Bell presented a request for the revision of the speed limit on Winchester Pike. In 2003 approximately 1/3 mile of Winchester Pike was reduced to 35 mph as part of a zoning commitment. The development never occurred and the speed limit for the 1/3 mile has remained 35mph. Tim has recommended that the speed limit be raised to the appropriate speed limit of 55mph, which will put it in concurrence with what the speed limits are to adjacent sections.

Steve Simmons asked for motion to increase the speed limit from 35 mph to 55 mph on the approximate 1/3 mile of Winchester Pike

Motion to approve – Woods

Second - Simonds

Motion carries (for the record there were 4 votes yes and 1 member abstaining)

OLD BUSINESS

Downtown Action Plan Update

Tim Bell gave an update on the Downtown Action Plan

On-street Parking

Tim Bell stated that approximately 73 of the 120 proposed meters on High Street have been installed and are operational. The remainder will be installed in the spring/summer as COTA is able to relocate their bus stops. There has been no negative feedback to date to the meters being installed.

Front/Marconi Conversion to Two-Way Operation

Tim Bell indicated that the project for the Front and Marconi two way conversions has been given to Burgess and Niple for final design. The project is targeted to be complete by 2013 end.

Broad Street Revisions

Tim Bell indicated this part of the DAP is currently in the analysis stage. Staff and consultants are continuing to look at alternatives and priorities. Burgess and Niple have developed a couple of alternatives and will be presented to the Mayor's staff in the near future. Plan is to have more detail on alternatives at the next T&PC meeting in January 2013.

Parking Downtown

Tim Bell reported that there were draft memos developed by Burgess and Niple with respect to parking downtown, lifting peak hour restrictions and bicycle lanes east and west. Tim indicated that a meeting is set with B&N next week to go over the comments that they had in those recommendations.

Parsons Avenue

Tim Bell indicated in May 2012 that one of his staff members brought this revision on the Parsons Avenue section from 270 to Rathmill with a recommendation that a 50 mph speed limit be posted for the city section. There was a question at that time from the commission about the section immediately to the north that is actually in Franklin County jurisdiction. Tim Talked with Mike Meeks and he stated they would be willing to sign that section to 35 mph which would bring it into consistency with what the city section is to the north.

Discussion

Bicycle Subcommittee Update

Nick Popa gave an update as follows on issues discussed at the November 28, 2012 Bicycle Subcommittee meeting

Sullivant Avenue Update - This is a project to connect the future Camp Chase trail to downtown with a bike facility along Sullivant Avenue. Area commissions had expressed concern of increased traffic due to the opening of the casino. Initial analysis showed that there was actually no change in the traffic on Sullivant Avenue so the plan is to return to the local area commissions with this information and reconsideration of the road diet portion. Project is planned for bid in 2013.

Downtown Action Plan – Tim Bell addressed summary of Downtown Action Plan previously in meeting.

Milton Bike Box FHWA Report/Rehabilitation – This was installed as an experimental treatment under FHWA guidelines and as such we were required to monitor the intersection, collect data and report on findings. There may be other locations to consider for Bike Boxes. Steve Simmons asked that at the next meeting T&PC meeting a picture of a bike box be provided to committee.

Inventory of Signed Shared Roadways – This project is an inventory of sign shared roadways and has been given to ME Companies, one of the city's bike project consultants. This project will develop and inventory the existing signage and work to develop standard sign format for bicycle signage. Included in this task, ME Companies is going to develop a GIS inventory of bikeway related items, such as, bike signage, bike pavement markings, bike racks and bike parking shelters. This project is expected to begin early 2013.

Construction Updates – Update given of projects completed in 2012.

Bicycle Subcommittee Membership – Updated bylaws and reapplication discussed previously in meeting.

Discussion

Parking Policy Update

Loading Zone Policy

Update to Loading Zone administrative rules and regulations will be postponed till next year some time. Staff is limited and is focusing on the On-Street Handicap Parking Policy and the Residential Permit Parking Policy

On-Street Handicap Parking Policy

Randy Bowman indicated he would be meeting with the department and mayor's office representatives in the coming week to discuss feedback from CAC, Columbus Advisory Committee on Disability Issues.

Residential Permit Parking Policy

Randy Bowman indicated progress being made with the Italian Village Parking Working Group which met again on December 3, 2012. Action items are being drafted for next meeting on January 2, 2013. Possible recommended changes at the January 8, 2013 T&PC meeting

Discussion

Other Business

Steve Simmons asked if the Roberts Rules of Orders allows the commission to go through all action items at once and then move to approve all at once. Randy indicated he would look into and report back to commission.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim O'Harra
Recording Secretary

Steve Simmons
Chairperson

Patricia A. Austin
Executive Secretary

THIS MEETING WAS RECORDED; RECORDING IS ON FILE
AT 109 NORTH FRONT STREET